[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: A list* of aided reading rooms and libraries showing the amount of grant sanctioned to each during 1097 is laid on the table.

Grant of Copies of Revenue Records.

58. MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: With reference to my interpellation No. 7 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd June, 1921, and the answer thereto, regarding the difficulties experienced by the people in obtaining copies of *Ozhugus*, *Ozhugu* forms, *chittas*, survey plans, etc.—

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have laid down clear rules as promised?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to pass the rules at an early date?

(*c*) Have the Government any objection to issue a circular that revenue officers should not insist on the production of court certificates if there is no rule to that effect?

(*d*) Is there any fixed scale of fees for the grant of copies of survey plans and other land revenue records?

(*e*) Are Government aware that exorbitant copying fees are realised by revenue officers in certain taluks for copies of survey plans, etc.?

(*f*) Is there any rule prohibiting the grant of copies of *ozhugus* and *ozhugu* forms?

(*g*) Have the Government any objection to issue a circular that copies of *ozhugus* and *ozhugu* forms may be freely granted to landholders?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) & (*b*) The Rules referred to have been published in the Government Gazette dated the 29th Tulam, 1098.

(*d*) Yes. The scale of fees is prescribed in the Rules for the preparation and issue of copies of records from revenue offices Dis. No. 736 of 1921/Revenue, dated the 26th July, 1921. In the case of maps or plans or of documents written in characters not known to the copyists or clerks of the revenue office, a reasonable fee has to be specially fixed in each case by the officer competent to grant the copy. (*Vide* Rule 3 (iii) of the above quoted rules.) For other revenue records, the applicant has to incur a charge of 3½ chs. per page of 175 words.

(*e*) No. Government will take action to prescribe a fixed rate of fees for survey plans.

(*f*) The new rules *re* grant of certified copies of revenue records permit the grant of copies of all settlement and pre-settlement records. (*Vide* Rule 5 (8.) These include the *ozhugus* and *ozhugu* forms.

(*c*) & (*g*) No separate circular is necessary in view of the specific provision contained in the new rules.

* *Vide* Appendix II—page 159.

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MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: Are not the Government aware that land-holders are in urgent need of copies of *ozhugus* and *ozhugu* forms and that these copies are very often not given?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: Government have no information.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: Is there any objection on the part of Government to specifically declare in the rules that *ozhugus* and *ozhugu* forms may be given?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: I want notice of that question.

Assessment of Jenmom Cherikal lands.

59. MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how *jenmom cherikal* lands planted with taxable trees, when brought under assessment, are taxed?

(*b*) Is it under the *Cherikal* Rules dated the 19th Meenam, 1082, or under the *Karampathippu* Rules dated the 4th Medam, 1088?

(*c*) In either case, what is the maximum period for which arrears are realisable?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) *Jenmom cherikal* lands planted with taxable trees will be charged one-half of the full assessment leviable on *pandaravagai cherikals*, *i. e.*, dry *cherikal* rates for the unplanted portions, and tax on the taxable trees for the planted portions as per schedule of settlement rates for trees, allowance being made for the area covered by such trees also according to the settlement scale.

(*b*) Under the provisions of G. O. No. 949 R., dated the 13th February, 1907.

(*c*) From the year in which the settlement rates of tax were introduced in the taluk in which the land in question is situate.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: In the Rules referred to in the answer is there not a maximum of 5 years fixed?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: Of course, under the *Karampathippu* Rules, there is a maximum of 5 years.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: He is entitled to an answer in regard to the maximum period in each case.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: Is there not a provision to that effect in the *Cherikal* Rules also?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: There is no maximum, so far as *cherikals* are concerned.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: I want to know whether there is any rule to the effect that not more than 5 years' arrears should be realised in the case of *cherikal* lands.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: I do not remember that there is any such rule.

Enquiry in Karampathippu Cases.

60. MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are any rules of procedure regarding the enquiry to be held in *karampathippu* cases?

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